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By:

LINDA E. HASTINGS

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Attorney Docket No.: NEKA 18.612 (100806-00199)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Yoshihisa MATSUBARA et al.

Serial No.: 09/840,386

Filed: April 23, 2001

Title: **METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE, AND PROCESSING SYSTEM AND SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE**

Examiner: Lan Vinh

Group Art Unit: 1765

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

A M E N D M E N T

SIR:

Introductory Comments

In response to the Office Action issued July 9, 2003, the period for response being set to expire on October 9, 2003, the period for response not being extended for more than one month, please amend the subject application as follows: